

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Amend Claims 1 and 6 as set forth below:

1. (currently amended) A method of balancing a disk pack in a hard disk drive, comprising:  
providing the hard disk drive with a motor hub, a balance clip holder in the motor hub, and a balance clip seated in the balance clip holder;  
providing a bent tab on one end of the balance clip to facilitate the disk pack balancing process;  
offsetting an opposite end of the balance clip relative to a body of the balance clip such that the opposite end is free of contact with the balance clip holder; and  
slidably moving the balance clip relative to the balance clip holder to adjustably balance the motor hub for smooth rotation during the disk pack balance process.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the offsetting step comprises forming the opposite end of the balance clip at a radius that is less than a radius of the body of the balance clip.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the offsetting step comprises forming the opposite end of the balance clip at a pre-determined lesser radial distance with respect to the body of the balance clip.
4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the offsetting step comprises locating an offset bend of the balance clip immediately adjacent to the opposite end of the body.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein, during the slidably moving step, the opposite end of the balance clip is free of contact with an outer diameter wall of the balance clip holder.
6. (currently amended) A method of balancing a disk pack in a hard disk drive, comprising:  
providing the hard disk drive with a motor hub, a balance clip holder in the motor hub, and a balance clip seated in the balance clip holder;  
providing a bent tab on one end of the balance clip to facilitate the disk pack balancing process;

offsetting an opposite end of the balance clip radially inward relative to a diameter of a body of the balance clip such that an offset bend of the balance clip is located immediately adjacent to the opposite end of the body; and

slidably moving the balance clip relative to the balance clip holder to adjustably balance the motor hub for smooth rotation during the disk pack balance process, such that the opposite end of the balance clip is free of contact with an outer diameter wall of the balance clip holder.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the offsetting step comprises forming the opposite end of the balance clip at a radius that is less than a radius of the body of the balance clip.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the offsetting step comprises forming the opposite end of the balance clip at a pre-determined lesser radial distance with respect to the body of the balance clip.

Add the following new claim:

9. (new) A method of balancing a disk pack in a hard disk drive, comprising:

providing the hard disk drive with a motor hub, a balance clip holder in the motor hub having a radially inward-facing shoulder, and a balance clip seated in and expanded radially outward into the radially inward-facing shoulder of the balance clip holder;

providing a bent tab extending radially inward on one end of the balance clip to facilitate the disk pack balancing process;

offsetting an opposite end of the balance clip radially inward relative to a diameter of a body of the balance clip; and

slidably moving the balance clip relative to the balance clip holder to adjustably balance the motor hub for smooth rotation during the disk pack balance process, such that the opposite end of the balance clip is free of contact with the outer diameter wall of the balance clip holder.